

'Y' Can Get Free Building if Land Is Donated

(Continued from Page 1)
estimated at about \$470,000. Me-
from a dilapidated poster, and
in due time a bright new sign
appeared. The benefactor remains
concealed in anonymity.

The quarters, located at 2080
Washington Ave., were bought
about eight years ago, with mem-
bers of the board carrying the
paper. It has become the nerve
center of all Y activity in Tor-
rance; there are about 100 groups
operating in homes, schools,
churches, and other facilities
throughout town.

The central office ministers to
the Y's subdivision: Indian
Guerra, Gray-Ys, Junior Hi-Ys,
and Hi-Ys. Activities are splen-
didly attended, for instance, the
annual breakfast recently when
North High's Cliff Graybehl was
named "Good Neighbor of 1959."
This event was profitable enough
to hire a part-time teen-age di-
rector for the remainder of the
year.

But, let the YM and YW sched-
ule a dance the same night, and
the latter's plushier atmosphere
packs them in, while they stay
away from the former in droves.
It is incontrovertible that a

new headquarters is vital.
How big need it be?
"As wide as the whole com-
munity," answered Joe Wilcox,
executive secretary. "Nothing
will house the entire program.
It extends through the city and
into mountains — into many
homes."

The leadership is searching for
about 2½ acres and expects to
start a drive for money in Jan-
uary, 1961.

If, by some outside chance, a
corporation or individual should
wish to donate the land within
two months, a large Los Angeles
lumber firm will provide the
building free. But it would have
to be within two months.

Also, if the land were donated
by some philanthropist in the
90 per cent tax bracket, it would
save the Y—and the city—about
\$90,000 in the fund drive.

As it stands—in dust—the
physical facilities boast a useless
shuffleboard table, a 'carryover
from the VFW post whence came
the hall, and a tuneless piano
that resembles something left by
the Magellan expedition.

The astounding aspect about
the Y operation is the contented
manner in which the staff car-
ries on—oblivious to 25-year-old
typewriters that grind out 65-
000 pieces of communication a
year, groaning in protest every
digit of the way.

The Y members don't seem to
notice the lack—not as much as
one would expect. But Torrance
at large must—should—and elect
to do something for their chil-
dren.

The organization receives no
support either from tax money
or organized charities like the
Community Chest. It must rely
on skimping dues, private dona-
tions, and money drives.

Torrance's is the largest of any
Y in the Southland, due to the
city's inordinate expansion. It is
a center for 5500 youngsters. It
provides a program children and
dads can follow from the young-



WORK GOES ON—Hartlyn Tower and Alpha amounts of work, oblivious to surroundings. Renz, office workers in YMCA, grind out huge Equipment is out of date, file facilities are nil. —Press Photo

ter's age 6 to young adulthood.
It is—and proponents feel it
should continue to be—the youth
center for Torrance. This is their
answer to advocates of a separate
youth center; it has been demon-
strated that autonomous agencies
generally are doomed to failure.
Those managed by established
youth organizations, such as the
Y, prevail, they contend.

Monday night local officials
heard plans for expansion of
YMCA facilities in the Los An-
geles area. The board of govern-
ors of the Southern California
Y were meeting here.

It was disclosed that four or
five major building programs are
scheduled for strategic areas
where the child population is ex-
ploding.

The regions were defined as
Torrance, San Fernando Valley,
Westchester, and downtown L.A.
Buildings like Westchester's—
\$4,000,000 to \$8,000,000 projects
—are on the boards, to be con-
structed with teenagers in mind.
They would house Teen Kan
Teens and other recreational and
body-building facilities for youth.

The tired businessman would
eat lunch there and go for a

Sunday Sermon Topic Announced

Narbonne Avenue Baptist
Church of Lomita will hear
Pastor Robert A. Wells speak at
the 8:30 and 10:50 services this
Sunday on "The Place Called
Heaven."

The combined enrollment of
the various choirs of the local
church was announced on the
past Sunday at 187. In recog-
nition of the church choirs and
their contribution to the church
the pastor presented choir pins
to those present. Edwin T. Is-
bell is minister of music for
the local church and director of
the choir program.

Spread crackers with a blend
of honey and creamed cheese, to
which nuts or grated orange
peels have been added.

Use classified Call FA 8-2345

The premises need to be moved
and made new, and that is some-
thing only the people of Torrance
can effect. The need is there now,
even though the fund drive is
more than a year away.

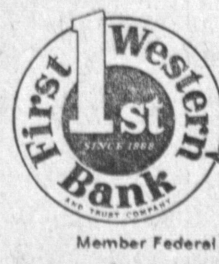
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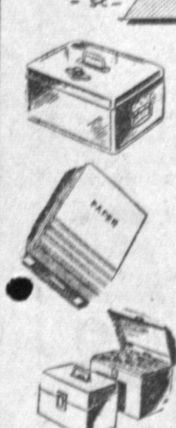
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